

**CLAIMS**

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1     1.     A barbecue grill comprising:  
2             a hollow cooking chamber including a firebox and a grill lid pivotally connected  
3     to the firebox with a hinge;  
4             a light assembly including:  
5                 a light bulb enclosure disposed within the hollow cooking chamber and  
6             configured to house a light bulb;  
7                 a handle disposed on the outside of the hollow cooking chamber and  
8             configured to be affixed to the grill lid, the handle including:  
9                 a battery compartment with at least one battery for providing  
10             power for the light bulb.
  
- 1     2.     The grill lid of claim 1, wherein the grill lid is rotatable about the hinge between a  
2     first substantially closed position and a second substantially open position.
  
- 1     3.     The grill of claim 1, wherein the light bulb is positioned over the cooking surface  
2     when the grill lid is in the second open position.
  
- 1     4.     The handle of claim 1, further including a switch and an electrical circuit between  
2     the at least one battery and the light.

1 5. The light assembly of claim 2, further including a light bulb shield pivotally  
2 connected to the light bulb enclosure with a second hinge and positioned to shield the  
3 light bulb when the grill lid is in the first substantially closed position.

1 6. The light assembly of claim 2 further including a light bulb shield pivotally  
2 connected to the light bulb enclosure with a second hinge, the light bulb shield positioned  
3 to allow illumination from the light bulb to illuminate a cooking surface from above  
4 when the grill lid is in the second substantially open position.

1 7. The grill of claim 1, wherein the grill lid is sandwiched between the handle and  
2 the light enclosure.

1 8. A cooking apparatus, the cooking apparatus comprising:  
2 a hollow cooking chamber including a lid pivotally connected to a firebox  
3 with a hinge;  
4 a light assembly including:  
5 an enclosure disposed within the hollow cooking chamber  
6 configured to house an illumination source;  
7 a compartment disposed on the outside of the hollow cooking  
8 chamber and affixed to the lid, the compartment configured to house a  
9 source of energy used to energize the illumination source.

1 9. The light assembly of claim 8, wherein the illumination source is selected from  
2 the group consisting of: a light bulb and a resistive electrical element.

1 10. The cooking apparatus of claim 8, wherein the enclosure is a handle.

1 11. The light assembly of claim 8, wherein the illumination source is a light bulb, the  
2 compartment is a battery compartment, and the source of energy is at least one battery.

1 12. The cooking apparatus of claim 8, wherein the source of energy is a battery.

1 13. A method of providing illumination to a cooking surface of a barbecue grill  
2 comprising:

3 modifying a grill handle to house a battery;

4 attaching the grill handle to a grill lid;

5 providing power from the battery to a light bulb disposed within a hollow cooking  
6 chamber of the grill;

7 shielding the light bulb when the grill lid is in a substantially closed position; and

8 exposing the light bulb when the lid is rotated to a substantially open position.

1     14.     A barbecue grill comprising:  
2             a hollow cooking chamber including:  
3                   a firebox; and  
4                   a grill lid hingedly attached to the firebox; and  
5                   a light assembly including:  
6                       a light enclosure configured to house an illumination source, the  
7                       enclosure disposed within the hollow cooking chamber; and  
8                       a shield hingedly connected to the light enclosure and operable to  
9                       shield the illumination source when the grill lid is in a first closed position  
10                      and to hingedly rotate to a second substantially open position to expose the  
11                      illumination source and illuminate a cooking surface from above.

1     15.     The barbecue grill of claim 14, further including a handle disposed on the outside  
2     of the hollow cooking chamber, the handle including a source of energy used to energize  
3     the illumination source.

1     16.     The barbecue grill of claim 15, wherein the grill lid is sandwiched between the  
2     handle and the light enclosure.

1     17.     The handle of claim 15, further including a switch in an electrical circuit between  
2     the illumination source and the source of energy.